

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 01377 080405Z

11

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 DRC-01 FEA-02 INT-08 EB-11 /112 W

----- 030271

R 070630Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2721

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 1377

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, EFIN, PP

SUBJ: PAPUA NEW GUINEA APPOINTS COMMITTEE

TO RENEGOTIATE BOUGAINVILLE AGREEMENT

REF: CANBERRA :0704 (NOTAL)

1. REPORTS IN AUSTRALIAN PRESS STATE PNG CHIEF
MINISTER SOMARE ANNOUNCED MARCH 4 THAT HIS GOVERNMENT
HAS APPOINTED COMMITTEE TO NEGOTIATE CHANGES IN
BOUGAINVILLE COPPER AGREEMENT (REFTEL). SOMARE GAVE
NO DETAILS ON COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP IN HIS HOUSE OF
ASSEMBLY ANNOUNCEMENT. PRINCIPLES COMMITTEE WILL BE
GUIDED BY INCLUDE:

(A) COPPER AND ALL MINERALS IN PNG BELONG TO PEOPLE
AND NOT TO FOREIGN CORPORATIONS.

(B) TIMING AND MEANS BY WHICH MINERALS ARE EXTRACTED
SHOULD BE DETERMINED BY PNG GOVERNMENT. PNG
NEEDS OUTSIDE SKILLS AND CAPITAL BUT RESPONSIBILITY
FOR MINERALS DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL

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PAGE 02 CANBER 01377 080405Z

AND ECONOMIC COSTS INCURRED MUST BE BORNE BY

PNG GOVERNMENT.

(C) LIONS'S SHARE OF WINDFALL" MINERALS PROFITS
SHOULD BE KEPT BY PNG.

2. SOMARE REPORTEDLY SAID HE WILL TAKE PERSONAL
RESPONSIBILITY FOR NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH HE EXPECTS TO
BE LONG PROCESS WITHOUT " SIMPLE OR QUICK" SOLUTION.

3. EMBASSY COMMENT: BOUGAINVILLE COPPER LIMITED'S
RECENTLY ANNOUNCED HUGE PROFITS AND THE ENSUING CALLS
BY MOMIS AND KAPUTINFOR DRASTIC STEPS BY PNG GOVERNMENT
(REFTEL OBVIOUSLY HAVE FORCED SOMARE TO TAKE HARDER LINE
WITH BCL AND OTHER PROSPECTIVE FOREIGN MINERS. HOWEVER,
CHIEF MINISTER'S "PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY" FOR NEGOTIATIONS
SHOULD PROVIDE MODERATING INFLUENCE.
GREEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROFITS, COPPER, AGREEMENTS, PROFIT SHARING, TAX RATES, MINING INDUSTRY, FOREIGN INVESTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUL 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <09 JUL 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PAPUA NEW GUINEA APPOINTS COMMITTEE TO RENEGOTIATE BOUGAINVILLE AGREEMENT
TAGS: EMIN, EFIN, PP, AS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005